

Corps Support to FEMA: Response to Super Typhoon Pongsona, Guam

The Corps of Engineers is currently engaged in supporting the Federal Emergency Management Agency with response operations in Guam. Super Typhoon Pongsona struck Guam on 8 December with sustained winds of 150 mph, gusting to 184 mph.

173 personnel from throughout the Corps of Engineers are responding to critical missions assigned by FEMA. These missions include: the development of a water action plan which encompasses the provision of bulk and bottled water; the development of a Temporary Housing Plan of Action in coordination with FEMA to provide temporary housing for families displaced from their homes (action completed); the assessment and installation of emergency generators for critical facilities (224 of 227 generator assessments completed and 73 generators installed as of 24 December); and technical assessments of critical building/facilities and infrastructure (44 of 48 deep water wells assessed and all 44 schools inspected as of 24 December). The development of a debris management plan and the debris removal mission has also been tasked to the Corps of Engineers - debris hauling began on 20 December. Additional Corps response capabilities dedicated to this disaster response include Logistics personnel working at the FEMA Mobilization Center, Geospatial Information System mapping support and communications support capabilities provided by a Containerized Tactical Operations Center (CTOC) from the Readiness Support Center (RSC). Preliminary Damage Assessments are being conducted on Saipan and Tinian 23-27 December.

Corps teams assigned to this event include: Water Planning & Response Team (PRT); Temporary Housing PRT; Power PRT; Debris PRT; Logistics PRT members; a GIS PRT member; RSC Deployable tactical Operations Center members; and assets from the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power).

For additional Information, visit the FEMA Home page at: www.fema.gov